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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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11 ADAM PARSA AND MARYAM  
12 SHEIKHLARY,

13 Plaintiffs,

14 vs.

15 CREDIT ONE BANK and EQUIFAX  
16 INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC.

16 Defendants.

Case No.: 2:17-cv-05634 PA (KSx)

**STIPULATED PROTECTIVE  
ORDER AND CONFIDENTIALITY  
AGREEMENT**

17  
18 1. A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

19 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,  
20 proprietary or private information for which special protection from public  
21 disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may  
22 be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to  
23 enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this  
24 Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to  
25 discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends  
26 only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment  
27 under the applicable legal principles.  
28

1           B.     GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

2           This action is likely to involve trade secrets, commercial, financial, and/or  
3 proprietary information for which special protection from public disclosure and  
4 from use for any purpose other than prosecution of this action is warranted. Such  
5 confidential and proprietary materials and information consist of, among other  
6 things, confidential business or financial information, information regarding  
7 confidential business practices, or other confidential research, development, or  
8 commercial information (including information implicating privacy rights of third  
9 parties), information otherwise generally unavailable to the public, or which may  
10 be privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure under state or federal statutes,  
11 court rules, case decisions, or common law. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of  
12 information, to facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of  
13 discovery materials, to adequately protect information the parties are entitled to  
14 keep confidential, to ensure that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses  
15 of such material in preparation for and in the conduct of trial, to address their  
16 handling at the end of the litigation, and serve the ends of justice, a protective order  
17 for such information is justified in this matter. It is the intent of the parties that  
18 information will not be designated as confidential for tactical reasons and that  
19 nothing be so designated without a good faith belief that it has been maintained in a  
20 confidential, non-public manner, and there is good cause why it should not be part  
21 of the public record of this case.

22           C.     ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PROCEDURE FOR FILING UNDER  
23 SEAL

24           The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below, that this  
25 Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information  
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1 under seal; Local Civil Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed  
2 and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court  
3 to file material under seal.

4       There is a strong presumption that the public has a right of access to judicial  
5 proceedings and records in civil cases. In connection with non-dispositive motions,  
6 good cause must be shown to support a filing under seal. *See Kamakana v. City*  
7 *and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1176 (9th Cir. 2006), *Phillips v. Gen.*  
8 *Motors Corp.*, 307 F.3d 1206, 1210-11 (9th Cir. 2002), *Makar-Welbon v. Sony*  
9 *Electrics, Inc.*, 187 F.R.D. 576, 577 (E.D. Wis. 1999) (even stipulated protective  
10 orders require good cause showing), and a specific showing of good cause or  
11 compelling reasons with proper evidentiary support and legal justification, must be  
12 made with respect to Protected Material that a party seeks to file under seal. The  
13 parties' mere designation of Disclosure or Discovery Material as CONFIDENTIAL  
14 does not—without the submission of competent evidence by declaration,  
15 establishing that the material sought to be filed under seal qualifies as confidential,  
16 privileged, or otherwise protectable—constitute good cause.

17       Further, if a party requests sealing related to a dispositive motion or trial,  
18 then compelling reasons, not only good cause, for the sealing must be shown, and  
19 the relief sought shall be narrowly tailored to serve the specific interest to be  
20 protected. *See Pintos v. Pacific Creditors Ass'n.*, 605 F.3d 665, 677-79 (9th Cir.  
21 2010). For each item or type of information, document, or thing sought to be filed  
22 or introduced under seal in connection with a dispositive motion or trial, the party  
23 seeking protection must articulate compelling reasons, supported by specific facts  
24 and legal justification, for the requested sealing order. Again, competent evidence  
25 supporting the application to file documents under seal must be provided by  
26 declaration.

27       Any document that is not confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable in  
28 its entirety will not be filed under seal if the confidential portions can be redacted.

1 If documents can be redacted, then a redacted version for public viewing, omitting  
2 only the confidential, privileged, or otherwise protectable portions of the document,  
3 shall be filed. Any application that seeks to file documents under seal in their  
4 entirety should include an explanation of why redaction is not feasible.

5 **2. DEFINITIONS**

6 2.1 Action: specifically refers to the proceedings or settlement in the  
7 above-captioned action.

8 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the  
9 designation of information or items under this Order.

10 2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of  
11 how it is

12 generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for  
13 protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in  
14 the Good Cause Statement.

15 2.5 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as  
16 their support staff).

17 2.6 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or  
18 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as  
19 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

20 2.7 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless  
21 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,  
22 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced  
23 or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

24 2.8 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter  
25 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as  
26 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

27 2.9 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.  
28 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside

1 counsel.

2       2.10 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association or  
3 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

4       2.11 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a  
5 party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and  
6 have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm  
7 that has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

8       2.12 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,  
9 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their  
10 support staffs).

11       2.13 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or  
12 Discovery Material in this Action.

13       2.14 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation  
14 support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or  
15 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)  
16 and their employees and subcontractors.

17       2.15 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is  
18 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.”

19       2.16 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery  
20 Material from a Producing Party.

21 3. SCOPE

22       The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only  
23 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or  
24 extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or  
25 compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or  
26 presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material. Any  
27 use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the trial judge.  
28 This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

1 4. DURATION

2 Once a case proceeds to trial, information that was designated as  
3 CONFIDENTIAL or maintained pursuant to this protective order used or  
4 introduced as an exhibit at trial becomes public and will be presumptively available  
5 to all members of the public, including the press, unless compelling reasons  
6 supported by specific factual findings to proceed otherwise are made to the trial  
7 judge in advance of the trial. *See Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1180-81 (distinguishing  
8 “good cause” showing for sealing documents produced in discovery from  
9 “compelling reasons” standard when merits-related documents are part of court  
10 record). Accordingly, the terms of this protective order do not extend beyond the  
11 commencement of the trial.

12 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

13 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

14 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under  
15 this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that  
16 qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate  
17 for protection only those parts of material, documents, items or oral or written  
18 communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,  
19 items or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept  
20 unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

21 Mass, indiscriminate or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations  
22 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper  
23 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to  
24 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the  
25 Designating Party to sanctions.

26 If it comes to a Designating Party’s attention that information or items that it  
27 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must  
28 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

1       5.2   Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in  
2 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise  
3 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection  
4 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or  
5 produced.

6       Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

7           (a)   for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic  
8 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial  
9 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend  
10 “CONFIDENTIAL” (hereinafter “CONFIDENTIAL legend”), to each page that  
11 contains protected material. If only a portion of the material on a page qualifies for  
12 protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s)  
13 (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

14       A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection  
15 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated  
16 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and  
17 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be  
18 deemed “CONFIDENTIAL.” After the inspecting Party has identified the  
19 documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine  
20 which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order.  
21 Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix  
22 the “CONFIDENTIAL legend” to each page that contains Protected Material. If  
23 only a portion of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing  
24 Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making  
25 appropriate markings in the margins).

26           (b)   for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party  
27 identifies the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of  
28 the deposition all protected testimony.

1 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary  
2 and for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place  
3 on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the  
4 legend “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information  
5 warrants protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the  
6 protected portion(s).

7 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent  
8 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive  
9 the Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such  
10 material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make  
11 reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the  
12 provisions of this Order.

13 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

14 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a  
15 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court’s  
16 Scheduling Order.

17 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute  
18 resolution process under Local Rule 37-1 et seq.

19 6.3 Joint Stipulation. Any challenge submitted to the Court shall be via a  
20 joint stipulation pursuant to Local Rule 37-2.

21 6.4 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on  
22 the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper  
23 purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other  
24 parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating  
25 Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall  
26 continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is  
27 entitled under the Producing Party’s designation until the Court rules on the  
28 challenge.



1     7.     ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

2             7.1     Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that  
3 is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this  
4 Action only for prosecuting, defending or attempting to settle this Action. Such  
5 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the  
6 conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a  
7 Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL  
8 DISPOSITION).

9             Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a  
10 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons  
11 authorized under this Order.

12            7.2     Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless  
13 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a  
14 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated  
15 “CONFIDENTIAL” only to:

16                   (a)    the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action,  
17 as well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably  
18 necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

19                   (b)    the officers, directors, and employees (including House  
20 Counsel) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for  
21 this Action;

22                   (c)    Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to  
23 whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the  
24 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

25                   (d)    the court and its personnel;

26                   (e)    court reporters and their staff;

27                   (f)    professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and  
28 Professional Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action

1 and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit  
2 A);

3 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information  
4 or a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

5 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses,  
6 in the Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the  
7 deposing party requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto;  
8 and (2) they will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they  
9 sign the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless  
10 otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of  
11 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected  
12 Material may be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to  
13 anyone except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

14 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting  
15 personnel, mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement  
16 discussions.

17 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED  
18 IN OTHER LITIGATION

19 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation  
20 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as  
21 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

22 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such  
23 notification shall include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

24 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or  
25 order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the  
26 subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall  
27 include a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and  
28

1 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be  
2 pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

3 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served  
4 with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in  
5 this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” before a determination by the court from which  
6 the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s  
7 permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking  
8 protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions  
9 should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action  
10 to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

11 9. A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE  
12 PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION

13 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced  
14 by a Non-Party in this Action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such  
15 information produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected  
16 by the remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions  
17 should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional  
18 protections.

19 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery  
20 request, to produce a Non-Party’s confidential information in its possession, and  
21 the Party is subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-  
22 Party’s confidential information, then the Party shall:

23 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the  
24 Non-Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a  
25 confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;

26 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the  
27 Stipulated Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a  
28 reasonably specific description of the information requested; and

1 (3) make the information requested available for inspection  
2 by the Non-Party, if requested.

3 (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court  
4 within 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the  
5 Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive  
6 to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the  
7 Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its possession or control that  
8 is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a  
9 determination by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party  
10 shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in this court of its  
11 Protected Material.

12 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

13 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has  
14 disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized  
15 under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a)  
16 notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its  
17 best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform  
18 the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms  
19 of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the  
20 "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit  
21 A.

22 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE  
23 PROTECTED MATERIAL

24 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain  
25 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other  
26 protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal  
27 Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify  
28 whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for

1 production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence  
2 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure  
3 of a communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work  
4 product protection, the parties may incorporate their agreement in the stipulated  
5 protective order submitted to the court.

6 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

7 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of  
8 any person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

9 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this  
10 Protective Order, no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to  
11 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in  
12 this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on  
13 any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective  
14 Order.

15 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any  
16 Protected Material must comply with Local Civil Rule 79-5. Protected Material  
17 may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the  
18 specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material  
19 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information  
20 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

21 **13. FINAL DISPOSITION**

22 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within  
23 60 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must  
24 return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As  
25 used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts,  
26 compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the  
27 Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the  
28 Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if

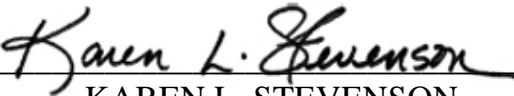
1 not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that  
2 (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was  
3 returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any  
4 copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or  
5 capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel  
6 are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial,  
7 deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition  
8 and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert  
9 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival  
10 copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective  
11 Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

12 14. VIOLATION

13 Any violation of this Order may be punished by appropriate measures  
14 including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary sanctions.

15  
16 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

17  
18 DATED: November 3, 2017

19   
20 KAREN L. STEVENSON  
21 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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1 EXHIBIT A

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

3 I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name], of  
4 \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address], declare under  
5 penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated  
6 Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Central  
7 District of California on November 3, 2017 in the case of *Adam Parsa and Maryam*  
8 *Sheiklhary v. Credit One Bank, N.A.*, United States District Court, Central District  
9 of California, Case No. 2:17-cv-5634-PA-KS. I agree to comply with and to be  
10 bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and  
11 acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and  
12 punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose  
13 in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective  
14 Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this  
15 Order. I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District  
16 Court for the Central District of California for enforcing the terms of this Stipulated  
17 Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of  
18 this action. I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full  
19 name] of \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address and  
20 telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with  
21 this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective  
22 Order.

23 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

24 City and State where sworn and signed: \_\_\_\_\_

25 Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

26 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_